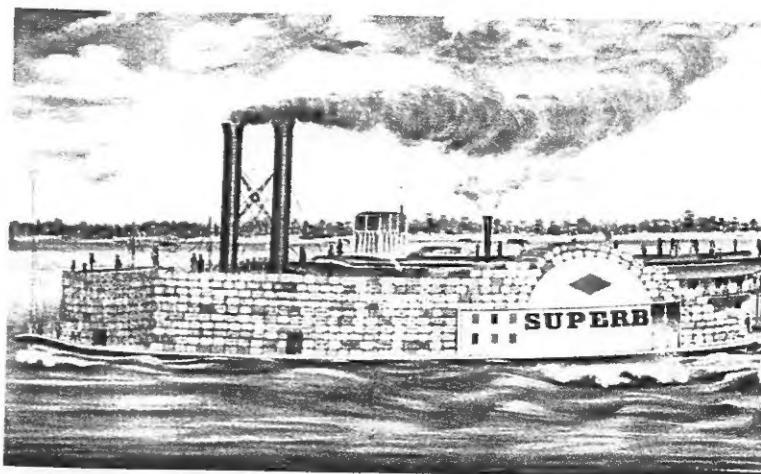


A TOBACCO FIELD yields new wealth for the emerging South. Cultivation of this crop was widespread throughout the upper South after the war, and it furnished a vital source of revenue.

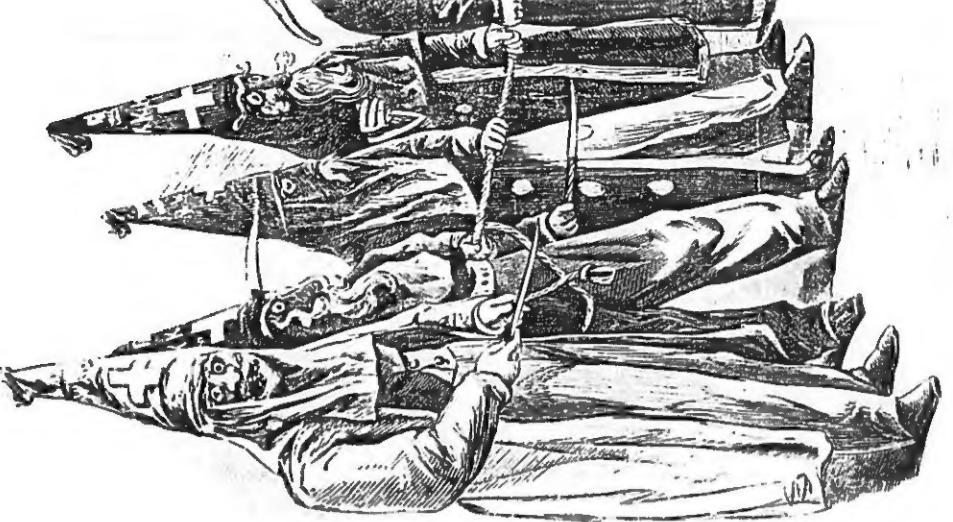
A LUMBERYARD in Louisiana reflects the swift growth of the timber industry during Reconstruction. By 1900 turpentine alone was to bring more than \$20 million to the Deep South.

## New crops and old build a foundation for recovery

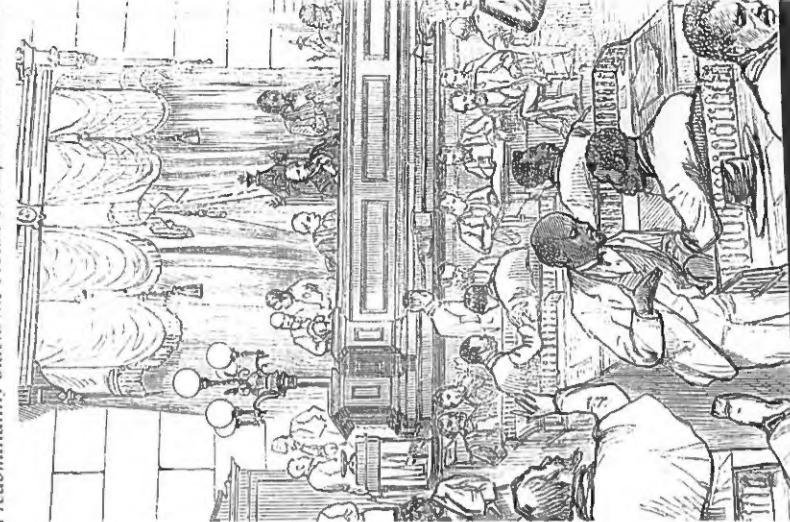
FOR half a century the South's economy had been firmly founded on cotton. When cotton boomed, the South boomed. Now as the region struggled to regain its feet, cotton was still the crop it depended on most. But the fiber was unstable in production and price, and insects and weather could play havoc with entire fields. Seeking to free itself from its one-crop economy, the postwar South diversified. Cotton gins were rebuilt, but new crops and industries were encouraged as well. Tobacco raising flourished. Sawmills and turpentine distilleries were constructed. Southern businessmen set up partnerships with Northerners in merchandising and manufacturing. But agriculture was handicapped by the ending of slavery—by 1869 cheap labor was so scarce that some Southern planters imported Chinese coolies to work the fields. Nonetheless, a few thoughtful men welcomed the end of the "peculiar institution." "It is the white man of the South more than the black," said one historian. "that has been freed by the Civil War."



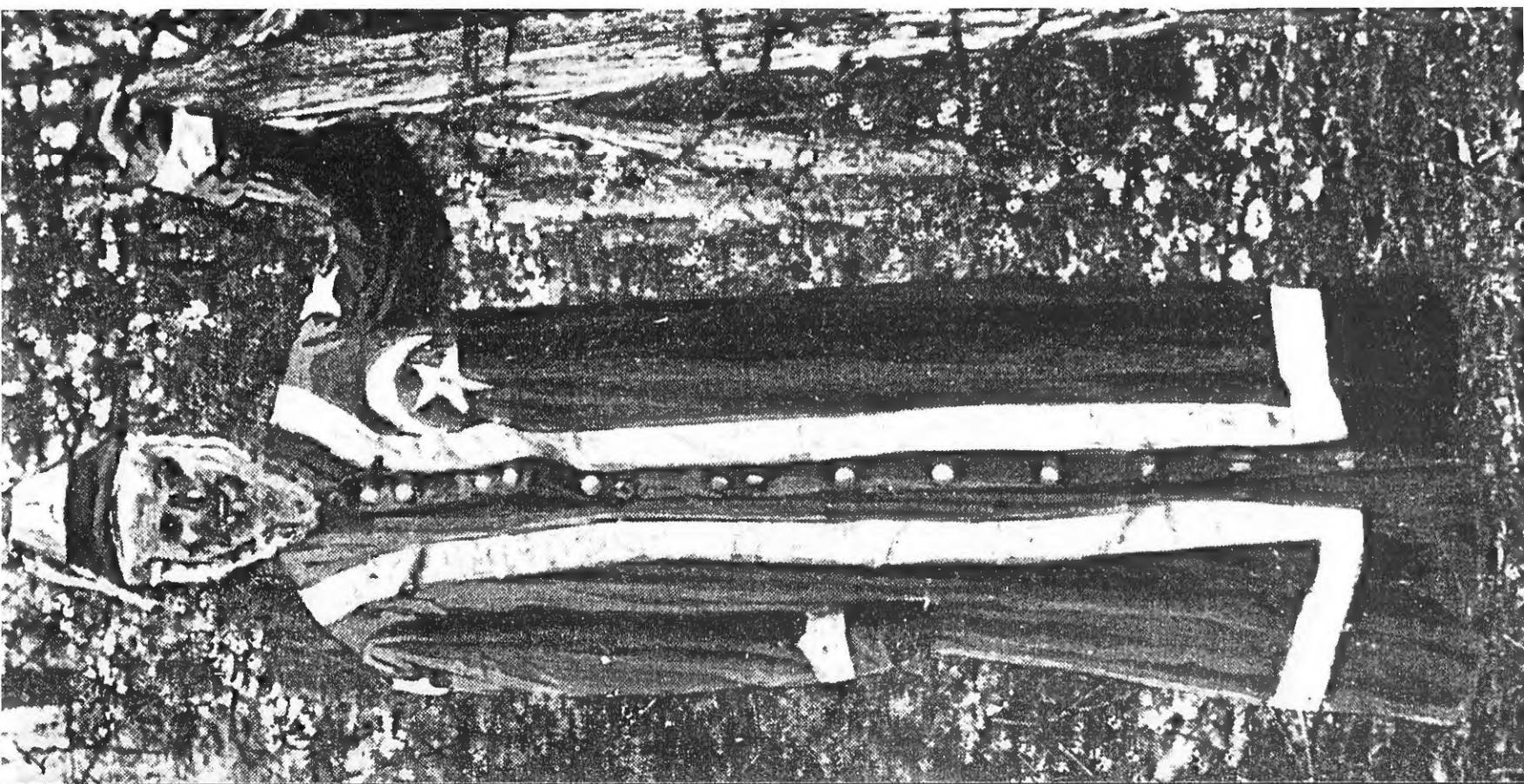
A COTTON BOAT steams to market bearing a heavy cargo, a common postwar scene on Southern rivers. In the months just after Appomattox, cotton prices went as high as \$125 a bale.



SOUTHERN AVENGERS of the Big Poplar.  
North Carolina, Ku-Klux Klan prepare to  
hang John Campbell for being an ardent



Predominantly black the House of Representatives in S



CLAN REGALIA is displayed by a member of the secret order.  
In these uniforms, called "shrouds," Klansmen pretended to  
be the spirits of dead Rebel soldiers just come from hell.